

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 3048

As Passed House:
February 8, 2006

Title: An act relating to the uniform interstate family support act.

Brief Description: Changing the effective date of the uniform interstate family support act.

Sponsors: By Representatives Moeller and Darneille; by request of Uniform Legislation Commission.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Juvenile Justice & Family Law: 1/27/06, 1/31/06 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 2/8/06, 98-0.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Changes the effective date of the 2002 act adopting the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) amendments to January 1, 2007.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE & FAMILY LAW

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 7 members: Representatives Dickerson, Chair; Moeller, Vice Chair; McDonald, Ranking Minority Member; McCune, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Crouse, Lovick and Roberts.

Staff: Kara Durbin (786-7133).

Background:

The Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) addresses child support issues that arise when parties reside in different states. The UIFSA was drafted by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws in the early 1990s. Washington adopted the UIFSA in 1994.

In 1996, federal welfare reform legislation required states to enact the UIFSA and any recent amendments to the UIFSA. At that time, the most recent amendments were the commissioners' 1996 amendments, and Washington adopted these as required. In 2001, the Uniform Law Commissioners adopted additional amendments to the UIFSA.

In 2001, Washington adopted these additional amendments with an effective date of six

months following the date Congress amended its original UIFSA mandate to include the amendments. Congress has not yet required states to adopt the amendments. However, the Department of Health and Human Services has been granting waivers from the federal mandate to states that have been acting in compliance with the amendments, rather than the original mandate.

The 2002 Washington Act does not address the issue of waiver.

Summary of Bill:

The bill changes the contingent effective date of the 2002 Washington Act adopting the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act amendments. The 2002 amendments take effect January 1, 2007.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: This bill amends Washington law to reflect federal statute.

Testimony Against: None.

Persons Testifying: (In support) Representative Moeller, prime sponsor; Dennis Cooper, Uniform Law Commission; and David Stillman, Division of Child Support, Department of Social and Health Services.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.